

CLAIMS

1. A calcium-binding protein comprising an amino acid sequence which is substantially identical to the amino acid sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 12.
- 5 2. The calcium-binding protein CAAF1 consisting of the amino acid sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 12.
3. A protein or peptide which is a portion of a protein according to Claim 1.
4. A fused protein comprising a protein or peptide according to Claim 1 and another protein or peptide.
- 10 5. DNA encoding a protein according to Claim 1.
6. DNA capable of being hybridized with DNA having the nucleotide sequence listed in SEQ ID NO: 1 or 12, and encoding a protein with calcium-binding activity.
- 15 7. A recombinant DNA molecule comprising DNA according to Claim 5 which is linked to a gene regulating factor.
8. A recombinant DNA molecule according to Claim 7, wherein said gene regulating factor is a prokaryotic promoter system or eukaryotic expression regulator system.
- 20 9. An expression vector comprising a recombinant DNA molecule according to Claim 7.
10. Recombinant host cells which have been transformed with an expression vector according to Claim 9.
- 25 11. Recombinant host cells according to Claim 10, wherein the host cells are eukaryotic cells or prokaryotic cells.
- 30 12. Recombinant host cells according to Claim 11, wherein the prokaryotic cells are bacterial cells.
13. Recombinant host cells according to Claim 12, wherein said bacterial cells are of *Escherichia coli*.
14. Recombinant host cells according to Claim 11, wherein said the eukaryotic cells are of yeast or filamentous fungus.
- 35 15. Recombinant host cells according to Claim 11,

16. A method for producing a calcium-binding protein according to Claim 2, characterized by isolating said protein from bovine amniotic fluid or bovine tissue, or a human tissue.

18. An antibody with binding affinity to a protein according to Claim 1.

20. A hybridoma which produces a monoclonal antibody according to Claim 19.

22. A diagnostic agent for inflammatory diseases,
neoplastic diseases (especially squamous epithelial
carcinoma), dermatosis or blood diseases, which comprises
25 an antibody according to Claim 18.

24. An assay method for a calcium-binding protein, characterized by using a reagent according to Claim 23.